

Re: FOIA status

From: Floyd Spriggs - NOAA Federal (floyd.springer@noaa.gov)

To: bennettd34@yahoo.com

Date: Monday, December 17, 2018, 4:05 PM EST

I am required to transmit them to you through FOIAonline.

I am waiting for the CAO to get an answer about the process. She wants to understand this before she signs

On Monday, December 17, 2018, Darlene Bennett <bennettd34@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hi Floyd,

How are the documents sent to me? Are they sent via email or through foia? I prefer my personal email if there was a choice.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

On Mon, Dec 17, 2018 at 2:22 PM, Floyd Spriggs - NOAA Federal <floyd.springer@noaa.gov> wrote:

We are waiting for the new CAO, Deirdre Jones to sign. It was just routed to her, and she has questions on the process. Getting you your requested FOIA information is a top priority of mine, and I will do my best to get it to you.

On Mon, Dec 17, 2018 at 12:17 PM Darlene Bennett <bennettd34@yahoo.com> wrote:

Ok so we are waiting another signature correct? Could you pls provide that name?

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

On Mon, Dec 17, 2018 at 11:36 AM, Floyd Spriggs - NOAA Federal <floyd.springer@noaa.gov> wrote:

Sorry, I was hoping to have them signed. Everything is ready just waiting for a signature indicating clearance. They have to go through NOAA CAO (new to her role).

On Mon, Dec 17, 2018 at 11:24 AM Darlene Bennett <bennettd34@yahoo.com> wrote:

Good morning Floyd,

I am contacting you regarding the status of the FOIA documents. You said COB last week, but i still have not rcvd them.

Pls reply,

Darlene

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

On Fri, Dec 14, 2018 at 2:44 PM, Floyd Spriggs - NOAA Federal <floyd.spriggs@noaa.gov> wrote:

If the number changed, it is probably due to it being a new request. In reference to receiving notifications, all line offices have a FOIA representative, so just them (and probably routed through leadership). Redactions by OGC is at a level that is well above my role, so I could not tell you who the contact is. The redactions are already completed by the time I receive them, I simply upload them at that point.

On Fri, Dec 14, 2018 at 1:59 PM Darlene Bennett <bennettd34@yahoo.com> wrote:

Thank you Floyd. I would like you to know i appreciate your efforts. A few questions. Why did the FOIA # change? Who all receives notification of my FOIA request within my line office? Who is the contact in OGC (name)?

Darlene

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

On Fri, Dec 14, 2018 at 1:42 PM, Floyd Spriggs - NOAA Federal <floyd.spriggs@noaa.gov> wrote:

We are working on it, trying to get it to you today (I am waiting for the last approval). But we are close.

On Fri, Dec 14, 2018 at 1:32 PM Darlene Bennett <bennettd34@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hi Floyd,

Ok. I interpreted your statement to mean that i should have received the letter two weeks ago. Thank you for explaining. I am awaiting the requested paperwork.

Darlene Bennett

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

On Fri, Dec 14, 2018 at 1:12 PM, Floyd Spriggs - NOAA Federal <floyd.spriggs@noaa.gov> wrote:

I think there is a misunderstanding, I was referring to sending the acknowledgement letter sent. This was my statement " I am new to FOIA online and hope that you received the acknowledgement letter a couple of weeks ago"

Sorry for the misunderstanding.

On Fri, Dec 14, 2018 at 11:08 AM Darlene Bennett <bennettd34@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hi Floyd,

No, this is not what I am speaking about. I would like the original email that you stated you sent a couple weeks ago.

On Friday, December 14, 2018, 11:01:14 AM EST, Floyd Spriggs - NOAA Federal <floyd.springgs@noaa.gov> wrote:

I sent it to you on December 11, 2018. But here it is again:

On Fri, Dec 14, 2018 at 9:58 AM Darlene Bennett <bennettd34@yahoo.com> wrote:

Thank you Floyd. Pls forward the original email for the acknowledgment letter you mentioned i should have received a couple weeks ago.

Thank you

Darlene

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

On Fri, Dec 14, 2018 at 7:23 AM, Floyd Spriggs - NOAA Federal <floyd.springgs@noaa.gov> wrote:

Good morning Darlene,

I did talk with the NOAA FOIA staff about the fee waiver language, and they expressed that it would be no fee associated with this more than likely (at most a nominal fee, but doubt it). I will have to look at the "narrowing scope" language and get back to you. From all the communication I have had from the FOIA office is that your request will be completed by the close of business today, and have not heard anything about any "narrowing scope". No action is required from you, we have been waiting for OGC to make their obligated legal redactions. Yes, we should have finished, and I apologize for the delay. We have an good faith obligation to fulfill request in a timely fashion, and really are attempting to get you your requested documents timely, but are sometimes constrained by process obligations (such as OGC redactions).

Hope I answered your questions, and have a great weekend.

On Fri, Dec 14, 2018 at 5:15 AM Darlene Bennett <bennettd34@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hi Floyd,

Question. In reading through the acknowledgement letter you sent to me, the letter mentions i have been granted a fee waiver but then it states something about narrowing the scope. Could you pls clarify? It seems that one is conflicting with the other? Is there any action required on my end? I see that the letter stated that the request should be complete by 12/10/2018 which has now passed. I believe there is a penalty on why the documents have not been received by the listed date?

Pls clarify.

Darlene Bennett

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

On Tue, Dec 11, 2018 at 9:31 AM, Floyd Spriggs - NOAA Federal <floyd.spriggs@noaa.gov> wrote:

No problem Darlene. Anything that I can help you with, let me know.

On Tue, Dec 11, 2018 at 9:25 AM Darlene Bennett <bennettd34@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hi Floyd,

Thank you for responding. Could you pls re-forward the acknowledgment letter via email that was sent out for my records pls?

Thank you,

Darlene

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

On Tue, Dec 11, 2018 at 9:19 AM, Floyd Spriggs - NOAA Federal <floyd.spriggs@noaa.gov> wrote:

Good morning Darlene,

I am new to FOIA online and hope that you received the acknowledgement letter a couple of weeks ago. We are in possession of your request, and am just waiting for it to be cleared to me so I can enter the documents into the system. I am trying to get this done timely, and even made a contact yesterday about the status. I have not heard anything back yet, but will continue to make contact, and try to get this to you as soon as I can.

Thanks for your patience.

On Tue, Dec 11, 2018 at 9:00 AM Darlene Bennett - NOAA Federal <darlene.bennett@noaa.gov> wrote:

Good morning Mr. Spriggs,

I am contacting you in regards to the status of FOIA - DOC-OS-2019-000202. I was informed that the foia has been assigned to you but I have not recvd any notification that you have this foia. I would like to know the status that you do have the foia and timeframe for receiving the documents.

Thanks

Darlene Bennett

Darlene Bennett
U.S. Dept. of Commerce
Office of Sustainable Fisheries
301-427-8538 - desk



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

November 28, 2018
1315 East West Hwy, SSMC3/13448 SSMC3/13448
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Re: FOIA Request DOC-NOAA-2019-000202

Dear Mrs. Darlene Bennett,

This letter acknowledges receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

Your request was entered into FOIAonline, our request tracking database, on 11/08/2018. Your request tracking number is DOC-NOAA-2019-000202.

You requested: *"Requesting electronic copies of all documents related to NOAA/National Marine Fisheries/Office of Sustainable Fisheries EEO complaints, Inspector General Investigations reports, Any and all investigation reports connected with my name Darlene Bennett, Emily Menashes, Kristian Gamble and Paul Doremus. Any and all materials EEO complaints, IG investigations and reports related to the following employees - Jenni Wallace, Kelly Denit, Stephanie Hunt, and Wendy Lawrence. Any and all NOAA Audits office and Inspector General investigations by Timeframe (April 2016 - Present) Mr. Mack Cato, Edward Horton, Jennifer Nobles, and Claire Sobczak . Any and all OCIO investigations conducted under OCIO Director Roy Vargas related to my name and missing files".*

Because the release of the particular documents you have requested is likely to significantly contribute to public understanding of the operations or activities of the Government a fee waiver has been granted for your FOIA request.

Pursuant to the FOIA fee schedule cited at 15 CFR §4.11, we determined that you are identified as "Other" requester and will be charged according to that fee structure.

The anticipated completion date for your FOIA request is 12/10/2018.

Please contact us if you are interested in narrowing the scope of your request. Narrowing your request will help expedite its processing.

If you have questions regarding your request, please contact Floyd C Spriggs at Floyd.spriggs@noaa.gov or call (301) 628-1023.

Sincerely,

Floyd C Spriggs

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Floyd C Spriggs".